

Log Landings

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Landings are one of the most visible parts of any timber harvest. If possible, locate the landing out of sight of the public. Log landings are the areas where logs are concentrated, processed, sorted and loaded prior to shipping. Care should be taken to locate the landing in an area that is well-drained to reduce the chance for erosion or sedimentation. Landings are subject to severe compaction. Additional effort may be required to establish a vegetative cover on these compacted areas.



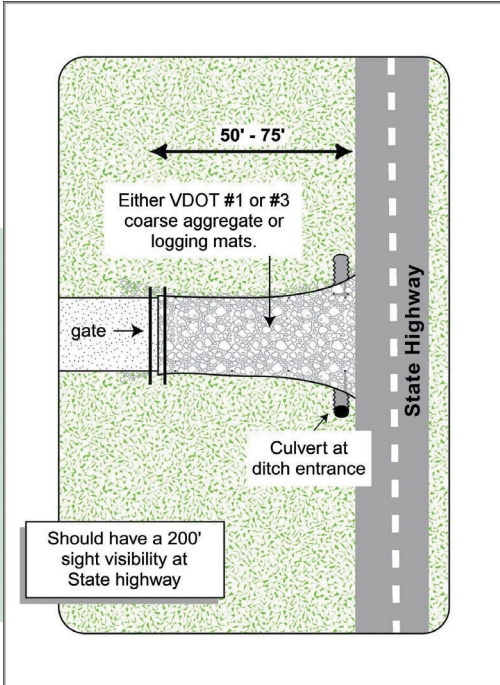
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Log Landing Construction

The following recommendations should be considered when planning, locating and constructing landings and roads to and from the landings:

- Use existing landings if possible. Close existing landings next to streams and water bodies unless construction of new landings would cause greater harm to water quality than using existing landings.
- Log landings should be located at least 50 feet from the Streamside Management Zone. If closer placement is necessary, additional BMP measures should be considered (such as straw bales or silt fence).
- Locate landings on firm, well-drained soil that is slightly out-sloped to promote efficient drainage.
- Size all landings to the minimum necessary for the acreage to be harvested, yet with enough room for efficient equipment operation and product sorting and removal.
- Locate residue piles such as slash, sawdust and chips away from drainages where runoff may wash residue into streams, lakes or wetlands.
- Locate diversions such as water bars on skid trails leading into the landing. Construct skid trails to prevent water from flowing into the landing and ponding, where compaction from the machinery has occurred.

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- Locate diversions such as water bars and broad based dips on the truck haul road leading out from the landing to prevent water and sediment from flowing out onto the public highway.
- Place coarse rock or stone to shake mud off vehicles before entering public highways.
- Remove all mud tracked onto public roads immediately.
- During muddy conditions, use coarse rock over geotextile to keep the rock in place.

Landing Maintenance

- Check fittings and hoses regularly to prevent leaks of lubricants and hydraulic oil. Repair all leaks immediately.
- Have oil-absorbent mats or material on landing in the event of fuel oil, hydraulic fluid or lubricant spills.
- Remove all unnatural debris such as cans, paper, discarded tires, cables and chains, etc. on a daily basis.
- Scatter all woody debris to improve drainage and appearance of the site.
- If necessary, soil should be stabilized by seeding and mulching at the end of the operation.